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Congress Must Meet Earlier.
The members of the Sixty-sixth Congress, elected on November 5, 1918, are now in Washington preparing to meet in its first session, which will begin on May 19, six and a half months after they received at the polls their mandate from the people of the United States.

The Congress will assemble in the Capitol on Monday of next week by virtue of a proclamation issued by President Wilson to deal with problems of legislation consideration of which could not be postponed without imperiling the operation of the Government and producing chaos in the executive department.

President Wilson was compelled by imperative necessities of the nation to call the Sixty-sixth Congress. Had he not been under this compulsion the Sixty-sixth Congress would not have met until Monday, December 1, 1919, the date fixed by the Constitution for the annual assembling of the Congress.

After the rejection of the Democratic party on November 5, 1918, until March 4, 1919, that party still retained power in the Congress. In the face of the overwhelming defeat inflicted on its candidates by the American people at the ballot box, after the crushing repudiation the American people administered in that election to Woodrow Wilson and his partisans, he and they continued for four months to formulate the statutes for the nation. The representatives of the people chosen on November 5, 1918, had no opportunity to install themselves in their offices until noon of March 4; and even after that date had been reached they could begin the performance of their duties previous to December 1, 1919, only when and if it pleased Woodrow Wilson to summon them to their task.

While on November 5 the American people voted to oust the Democratic party from the national legislature the men they selected to represent them could not make their policies effective for practically thirteen months, unless they were called to the Capitol by Woodrow Wilson, to whom their election had been a prostrating personal and political defeat. Instead of an immediate transfer of the legislative power from the discredited Democratic party to the Republican party the country was compelled to face the continuance in active operation until March 4 of the incompetence it had voted to exclude from Congress, and even when that period had elapsed it was obliged to wait on the judgment of the man it had rejected as emphatically as lay within its power to reject for the convoking of its new lawmakers. Had Mr. Wilson not been forced to call the Sixty-sixth Congress by national needs he could not ignore to meet in extra session, the expressed will of the people would have been inoperative for thirteen months.

Never before have the inconveniences and actual perils of the system that defers the meeting of the Congress for a year and a month after the date of its election been more completely exposed than they have been in the period which opened with the tremendous victory of sound Americanism and political sanity over Woodrow Wilson and his subversive partisans on November 5. In a country having a parliamentary form of government the Premier and all his executive subordinates would have been ejected from office in the British general election as Woodrow Wilson was beaten in the American election he would have lost his office and Great Britain would have been ruled by a man in sympathy with the popular will. Here not only does Mr. Wilson remain in office but the very men who were chosen to represent the people in Senate and House have been unable to exercise their functions except with his consent and active assistance.

This Sun does not hold that our system of fixed tenure of office is inferior to the parliamentary system of Great Britain. Each system has certain advantages; ours has generally worked to the satisfaction of the American people. But the manifest

disadvantage of the lapse of so long a period of time between the election of the Congress and its assembling is a weakness as obvious as it is unnecessary.

The Constitution provides that "the Congress shall assemble at least once in every year," and that "such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day." Not only has the Congress power to appoint a different day, but that power has actually been exercised on frequent occasions. A single historical citation will suffice. The act of January 22, 1867, provided that "in addition to the present regular times of meeting of Congress there shall be a meeting of the Forty-third Congress of the United States and of each succeeding Congress thereafter at 12 o'clock noon on the fourth day of March, the day on which the term begins for which the Congress is elected, except that when the fourth day of March occurs on Sunday then the meeting shall take place at the same hour on the next succeeding day."

Under this act the Forty-first and Forty-second Congresses met. The act was repealed by the Forty-third Congress. Had it or a similar act been in force this year the Sixty-sixth Congress would have met on March 4, and the repair of the damage done to the country by Democratic subservience, sectionalism and incompetence would now be well under way.

The circumstances which now exist point a cardinal duty of Republicans in the Sixty-sixth Congress. They must correct the legislative situation which bars the Congress from assembling without executive call for thirteen months after its election. The necessities of the country and the refusal of President Wilson to give the nation the benefit of its new legislature have revealed the perils of the present practice, and the obligation of the Republicans in this matter must not be evaded.

Republican Unanimity.
The unanimity which marked the proceedings of the Republican Senatorial caucus yesterday augurs well for the country and the Republican party.

Democratic hopes have been built on the possibility that factional differences might split the Republicans in the Senate, and if control of the chamber was not thereby given to the Democrats the business of the nation would be reduced to chaos and the Republican party to impotence.

This hope is not to be fulfilled. There is too much patriotism, too much good sense, too much devotion to the public interest in the majority in the Senate to permit such a thing to happen.

The Democrats must reconcile themselves to the fact that the Republicans subordinate personal and party considerations to the needs of the nation.

Railway Traffic Falls While Railway Expenses Rise.
The Railroad Administration officially confirms The Sun's recent estimate that the freight traffic in March was very much less than in the corresponding month of last year. We estimated the traffic shrinkage at about 20 per cent.; the Railroad Administration now reports it at 18 per cent. But this isn't the worst of it. The April shrinkage, as compared with the previous year, will be still more severe.

Now, see what this means. Traffic ought to grow materially from month to month after the first part of any year. It will do so this year. The tons hauled in April will be more than the tons hauled in March. The tons hauled in May will be more than the tons hauled in April; and so on. But while a small percentage of loss on a small volume of traffic is something serious, a large percentage of loss on a large volume of business is something calamitous. For a road to lose a fifth of a million tons of traffic, for example, means going to the bad by 200,000 tons. For the same road to lose a third of a million and a half tons of traffic means going to the bad by 500,000 tons. To lose 40 per cent. of two million tons of traffic means going to the bad by 800,000 tons. And this is the very mischief which is working against the business, the earnings and the solvency of the railroads.

Yet all the while the expenses have been climbing. Government operation cannot keep up the traffic and Government operation, perhaps, cannot be blamed for this. But Government operation cannot, for whatever reason, lower the expenses as business lowers and lowers.

Not only have there been very much higher wages to the men but there have been many more men on the job—many more men to do much less work than was done formerly. The Government itself, through one of its departments—Secretary Remond's—has even tried to make the railroads pay more for their coal than they had been paying, more for their steel than they had been paying. Only the hard fighting of Director-General Hinks against the Government itself saved the roads from actually increasing their steel bills and their coal bills along with their labor bills while the business of the roads was melting away.

Director-General Hinks is said to be striving likewise to cut off useless labor. If he were his own master in respect of his payroll, as he was able to prove himself his own master in respect of his steel bills and coal bills, there isn't a shadow of doubt that he would do so. But when it comes to cutting off useless labor the Director-General will find the political pressure of Government operation

too powerful for him to overcome. He will never be able to get all the useless men off the payroll. Nobody under Government ownership would be able to get them off. Nobody under Government ownership would ever be able to get out of the men, if there wasn't one too many on a job, all that was in them. The men couldn't get it out of themselves if they wanted to. Government jobs do not inspire the workmen and Government rewards do not go to them by merit. Government operation stifles ambition in the rank and file, throttles initiative and discourages conscientiousness.

Before the war Louis Brandeis, now a Justice of the United States Supreme Court, declared that the railroads, under private operation, were wasting \$1,000,000 a day. Maybe they were, maybe they were not. But if they were, the same railroads, under Government operation, would appear to be wasting \$2,000,000 a day.

The touch of the Government in business is the touch of death.

An Administration Boomerang Hits Uncle Sam on the Head.
Six weeks ago the Navy Department opened bids for 20,000 tons of steel, and finding that the bidders had all put in the price that had been fixed by the Industrial Board rejected the offers as not being competitive. This week, on opening bids for supplying another lot of plates and shapes, the Navy Department found that the same remarkable situation existed. Either the bidders gently referred the department to their bids of April 4 or they put in new offers amounting to practically the same thing.

The Administration is getting a dose of its own medicine. In its mania for fixing prices it permitted the Industrial Board of the Department of Commerce to name the figure at which steel should be sold. Why should Mr. Wilson's Secretary of the Navy scorn the very prices fixed by Mr. Wilson's Secretary Remond's Industrial Board? It's the law, Mr. DANIELS will say, if he hears about it in Europe; navy bids must be competitive. Well, then, was not the Government's fixed price also the law on April 4, when the bids were rejected because they complied with the price fixing of the Industrial Board?

"I am MORDECAI," says Mr. DANIELS' department, "and I shall not be hanged on HANAN REMOND'S fifty cubit price fixing gallows." Only in this drama it isn't HANAN who gets hanged. It's business, as usual.

The Air is Getting Crowded.
The time made by the naval seaplane NC-4 in its flight from Chatham, Mass., to Halifax yesterday averaged a mile and a half a minute, against a mile a minute made by its sister planes, NC-1 and NC-3, on their trip on May 8. The desire of Lieutenant-Commander READ to overtake his fellow fliers at Trepassay Bay and accompany them when they depart for the Azores explains this speeding up of his machine. In the trip to Halifax he far exceeded the economical rate of flying for the plane he drove according to the figures given by GLENN H. CURTIS, who was one of its designers.

The NC-4 was forced to put into Chatham after leaving Rockaway, on May 8, because of trouble with a lubricating pump. Lieutenant-Commander READ made repairs at the air station on Cape Cod, and then pluckily started on the stern chase with his fellows. The performance of his plane on the first leg shows how successful were the repairs made.

Meantime, the dirigible C-5 left Montauk yesterday, if not with the promise of an attempt to reach Europe, at least with the hope that it may make a trial. Its destination was St. John's, N. F., and of Chatham it was making forty miles an hour. Its speed is not to be compared with that of the planes, but it may follow their route to Europe.

That we shall not forget others are active in the air, the completion of a 8,000-mile airplane trip from Mosul, Mesopotamia, to England by Colonel WEAVER should be recorded. The air is getting crowded. Deputy Police Commissioner WAMAMAKER's serial patrolmen must soon get on the job.

The Twelve Little Islands.
The disposition of the Dodecanesian Islands, which earlier in the discussion of peace terms seemed to have only a modest place, has recently aroused the proportions of a lively and troublesome issue. The controversy over the matter really followed as a result of two preceding wars, the Turco-Italian and the war of the Balkan States against Turkey; apparently impossible of a compromise then, it comes up now in a more complicated form for a final settlement.

Dodecanesia as a name has a rather deceptive appearance of antiquity, but as a designation for a group of twelve islands in the Aegean Sea known commonly as the Southern Sporades Islands it came into use following the last Balkan war. The present interest in these islands is entirely a revival. They had their part in the early history of the ancient Greeks, in the days of the successes of the Venetian Republic. Then they practically dropped out of sight until they were occupied by the Italians in the Tripolitan war and retained under the treaty of Lausanne as pledges for underwriting definitely entered into by Turkey.

From an economic standpoint it would be difficult to find a reason for the contention over the possession of these islands. Most of them are merely rocky points, the only productive sections being the valleys and strips of coast land. Some of the

islands, notably Kalymnos and Karpathos, are centres of the islands' one industry, sponge diving. Patmos has a monastery on the spot where "Saint John" saw the vision of the Apocalypse. Symi, Kos and Stampalia have magnificent ruins of Venetian castles or castles of the knights of the crusades, and Rhodes has interesting Grecian and Roman remains and reminders of the occupation of the island by the Knights of Saint John. Despite these attractions the islands were never favored by travelers or tourists, and perhaps never will be. The chief value of the islands apparently is in the control that they might give over the coast of Asia Minor and in the eastern Mediterranean.

Italy presents two grounds for her claim to the Dodecanesian: the ancient possession held by Venice, of which there is sufficient and very obvious evidence, and the present possession of the islands, which she has held for seven years under treaty rights. Greece declares that the terms of the treaty by which Italy holds the islands have been fully executed. She sets up the claim that the population of the Dodecanesian group is overwhelmingly Greek, 120,727 of the 135,000 being of the Greek race. The sentiment of Greece is strongly in favor of the annexation of these islands, as is apparently that of the Dodecanesians themselves. The satisfaction of these demands and the preservation of the amicable relations with Italy for which he has so industriously strived constitute one of the most perplexing problems which at present are facing M. VENIZELOS, Greece's able Premier.

Representative Burnett's Typically American Career.
Representative JOHN L. BURNETT of Alabama, who died at his home in Gadsden on Tuesday, was one of the large number of men in the House and Senate whose careers exemplify the tremendous possibilities open to industrious and determined men in this country. In his early life he had few "advantages"; in other words, he had to work, and work hard, for his living and for the support of those dependent on him.

His father died when he was four; his mother supported him and his brother until they were old enough to labor. When they were able to strike out for themselves no easy path had been prepared for them. Mr. BURNETT labored on the farm and in the mines, and between times went to school. His desire was to be a lawyer, and in the hard but fruitful years of his youth he never lost sight of that ambition. He attained it by application, and indefatigable effort, and then entered politics. Mr. BURNETT was elected to the House in 1868, taking his seat in 1869, and had been continuously in it to the time of his death, having been elected last year for the eleventh consecutive term.

The Sun disagreed with Representative BURNETT about the expediency and desirability of excluding from this country immigrants, otherwise desirable, merely because they were illiterate, but with the exception of the provision to this effect contained in the immigration act of 1917, which bears his name, that law is a highly creditable piece of legislation. It will be recalled that President Wilson, following the precedents set by President Cleveland and President Taft, vetoed the bill, and Mr. BURNETT, as chairman of the Immigration Committee, had the satisfaction of seeing his colleagues pass it over the veto.

Another Radio Triumph.
The success of the NC-4's flight from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia is almost overshadowed in public interest by that incident of the voyage which so strikingly illustrates the perfection of wireless telegraphy. That a message launched upon the ether waves in Washington should reach the whizzing seaplane off the easternmost coast of Maine, and that the reply to it should be back in Washington two minutes later—this may not astonish the scientists, but it is profoundly impressive to the non-scientist.

Just as the fortunes of a single individual in the war would arouse more public interest than a hundred white books, so a single practical demonstration of the magic of the radio—like the messages exchanged between the Assistant Secretary of the Navy at Washington and Lieutenant-Commander READ, steering his plane at eighty-five miles an hour over the North Atlantic—will convey to Mr. and Mrs. John Smith a conviction that the ether is as reliable as the familiar wire.

That the messages were relayed through a station on the Maine coast does not detract one whit from the good impression left by the feat. Indeed, it serves rather to make the speed of the transmission appear more remarkable. And of course now that communication with airplanes 250 miles distant is proved so sure, it will not be long before science makes it possible for a plane or a dirigible to communicate with the land continuously during a voyage across the ocean.

The assault made on naval balloons by men armed with rifles near Gettysburg and Dover, Pa., constitutes an offense the Pennsylvania State Constabulary might profitably investigate. Balloon and airplane pilots and passengers are as much entitled to protection from casual murderers as are the patrons of more familiar methods of transportation. A good stiff jail sentence or two would restrain the sort of these gunners.

To the climate of America Henry ARTHUR JONES, the British dramatist, attributes our wholesome and beneficial affection for ice water. Yes, it may be rather hot after July 1.

Although the conquered in this case need pay no indemnity except, perhaps, the bare expenses incurred, Europe has been successfully invaded by two American institutions. The first is the jazz; the other the American "movies." In Great Britain and Ireland 4,000 new motion picture houses have been planned; France contemplates an additional 3,000, and Italy 2,000. This unprecedented demand in Europe for more and more film theatres can be accounted for by the fact that a war time fad has become established firmly now. In the British Isles and on the Continent during the war amusement centers were at a premium, and American picture palaces were the only places where there seemed to be a chance of getting a good show. SHAKESPEARE must share the honor of being claimed by all nations as their own with CHARLES CHAPLIN, DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, MARY PICKFORD and their associates of the motion picture theatre.

In Youngstown, Ohio, the City Council discarded a resolution that the prevailing tight skirt style be changed in preference for one which decreed that the steps of the street cars be lowered. A case of pulling the chair to the chair instead of the chair to the chair!

That reduced fare to Coney is exhibiting to contemplate until it is remembered that the nickel saved will be lost in paying the higher price for everything else at the Island.

BIRDS BACK IN TOWN.
Warblers Especially Abundant Among New Arrivals in the Parks.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The following record may be of interest to some of The Sun's bird hunters with an eye for a glint.

In Central Park in the rain on Saturday afternoon, May 10: scarlet tanagers, chestnut sided warblers, veeries, brown thrasher, flicker, blue jay, winged warbler, prairie warbler, grackles, oven bird, towhee, black throated blue warbler, Maryland yellowthroat, black and white warbler, catbird, downy woodpecker, Baltimore Oriole, Blackburnian warbler, red breasted nuthatch, black throated green warbler, black poll warbler, robins and starlings.

In the Bronx Botanical Garden Sunday, May 11: Wood thrush, catbird, veeries (many), thrashers, flickers, yellow warblers, chipping sparrows, song sparrows, robins, black and white warblers, white throated sparrow, oven birds (many), redstarts (everywhere), chestnut sided warblers, white eyed vireo, Acadian flycatcher, myrtle warbler (many), black throated blue warblers, Blackburnian warbler, bluejays, scarlet tanagers, red winged blackbirds, Maryland yellowthroat, phoebe, towhees, spotted sandpiper, rose breasted grosbeaks, olive backed thrush, white breasted nuthatch (nesting in a hollow tree), barn swallows and chimney swifts.

I have never seen the warblers so abundant. There were many others in the park, but I did not identify with certainty in the dim yellow light.

J. B. CARRINGTON.
New York, May 14.

HELD AT CAMP UPTON.
Nineteen Members of the 165th Still Waiting for Discharges.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I wish to correct an article that appeared in The Sun of May 10 saying that all members of the 165th Infantry had been mustered out and discharged here or sent to their respective camps.

When the regiment was discharged here on May 6 there were nineteen members of the 165th band who were so unfortunate as to reside in States other than New York, and we were sent to this brigade to be transferred to the States to which they were bound. Since the regiment was discharged we have been waiting patiently for some of the Government's much talked of efficiency to take its course.

I have been overseas nearly as long as any one in the A. E. F. and now after I am sent to another camp I will have to wait for a week or more to wait before being discharged and permitted to go home. I might add that we arrived in New York on April 21, and since that time have done nothing in a military way with the exception of a parade on Fifth avenue.

In my opinion suggestions for the betterment of the system affecting A. E. F. discharges in this country are very much in order.

CORPORAL ALLEN A. FRENCH.
Seventh Company, Second Battalion,
1524 Depot Brigade,
CAMP UPTON, May 14.

THE SLAV PROBLEM.
Importance to the World of Its Prompt Solution.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Under the heading "A Persistent Inquiry Into Our Activity Among the Slavs" a gentleman from Scranton asks a few questions in The Sun. It is impossible to give an answer to his questions, as they are based on wrong information.

He supposes that the Slav element in Czechoslovakia is a minority, while the non-Slav element there is only one-fourth of the population. As for Jugo-Slavia, he supposes it to be a country of mountaineers covering a territory of the lesser Alps, whose people he thinks is a mixture of races in which the Slav doesn't predominate. Now the whole non-Slav population of Jugo-Slavia will be at best one one-hundredth of the whole population and only one-tenth of Jugo-Slavia belongs to the territory of the lesser Alps.

The solution of the Slav problem is of the greatest importance for the world, as the Slav race will be a great factor in the coming civilization. The late war was foremost among the consequences of the unbalanced situation of the Slavs. Not to solve reasonably the Slav question would mean to create fuel for the next world war, in which America certainly would be dragged again.

F. LUSPER.
JAMAICA, May 14.

The Softest Drink.
"Drink to me only with thine eyes," wrote the poet.
"Think what a tax," we reminded him.

Happy Solution of an Economic Problem.
When I returned from overseas it was as I divined.
A girl was holding down the job I had left behind.
A pretty girl with fluffy hair
And eyes of velvet black,
And feet she placed the boss so well
He wouldn't take her back.

I looked for work, but work was scarce,
And then I was inspired
To do similar newspaper work
The place that I desired.
And now she is my happy wife,
Content our fate to rule;
And I am back again, behold!
Upon the office stool.
MINNA TAYLOR.

A FORMULA FOR FOLLOWING MR. WILSON.

Application of the Scientific Method to His Foreign Policy.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—We are told that in the development of all science there are three distinct stages: First, the observation of the phenomena; second, the collection of the data thus obtained into logical sequence; and, third, the deduction of a general rule or formula from the facts thus collected. This method need not necessarily be restricted to science. Why may it not be applied in the questions of everyday life?

For six years now the actions of our President have been the subject of much scrutiny and more amazement; he has supposed measures which without his approval would have been laughed to scorn; he has made seemingly impossible appointments; he has contradicted his own measures; as some one put it, "it would be easier to stand behind the President if the President would only stand still." This might be called the first step in the analysis of the problem.

For the second step let us review the President's record in Paris, with a special attention to the decisions which he has forced upon the gentlemen of the Quai d'Orsay. He has protected the "outraged Germans" from the avicious French in the Saar Valley case. In this case he has assisted our enemies at the expense of a friend better than whom he has never had. In order to protect the "outraged Germans" he has secured them against the acquisition of Danzig by the Poles, a people friendly to America, thus cutting them off from their only possible outlet to the sea; but at the same time insisting that Jugo-Slavia, which is to have wide easements, shall have access to the sea through French territory, thus insuring more than one American. He has insisted that Fiume, an Italian city, shall be joined to a nation foreign to her in language, customs and laws, at the same time calling for the abrogation of a solemn treaty, and calling for the recognition of the same rights for Jugo-Slavia that he has insisted Poland in the case of Danzig. And last, but not monstrous of all, he puts 4,000,000 Chinese under a foreign yoke because of a treacherous treaty similar in legal, but certainly inferior in moral, quality to the very one he tears up in the case of Italy. It may seem impossible to find any generalization in this jumble of inconsistencies. But surely there must be some formula for the solution of these problems, however weak and foolish. This leads us to this third step, the derivation of this general formula.

France is our friend; Poland is our friend; Italy is our friend; China is our friend; Germany is our enemy; Japan is certainly not our friend so far as China and the Pacific are concerned; a large share of the Jugo-Slavia, who assisted Austria in the war, fought Italy, and it is more than likely that they were involved in horrible atrocities committed on the Poles; at any rate, they are less our friends than Italy. What may we deduce from this? Is it not that the President wants to give to the unworthy at the expense of the worthy? Perhaps he thinks virtue is its own reward. If this is his policy—to help the unworthy at the expense of the worthy—then we must not only in the cases cited above but in his desired recognition of the Madmen of Russia and other more obscure cases that might be given. Can it be that this is the key to the President's foreign policy?

AN AMERICAN.
New York, May 14.

A DIAMOND STOCKPIN.

Nine Months Missing and No Postal Insurance Paid.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Nine months ago, on August 18, 1918, a parcel post package containing a diamond stockpin, properly insured, was sent to me from Huntington, L. I., and was never received. Tracers were filled out by the sender and the postmaster at Huntington assured me that it would not be difficult of adjustment, as an insured package passed through the hands of but few people and could easily be traced. We made out an affidavit, which we gave our postmaster—we were residing in Castleton, N. Y., at the time—and he also assured us of speedy settlement. There has been no word since, and finally I wrote directly to Postmaster-General Burleson rectifying the case. No attention was paid to this letter. We consulted our lawyer, only to be told that the Post Office Department, being an agent of the Government, was not subject to the jurisdiction of the courts. We enlisted the attention of Representative James S. Parker, who attempted to get some satisfaction for us, but without result. Senator Calder next took the matter up, and although I personally know that he has not neglected to give the matter attention, nine months have passed without result and without the amount for which the package was insured having been paid, although by our paying supposedly protects the sender against loss.

We have been honored by the Post Office Department to this extent only—that a card was sent stating that the diamond stockpin was insured for \$12,546.00. Confidence was expressed yesterday by the Brooklyn managers that the grand total will reach \$100,000. Among the additional subscriptions from Brooklyn announced yesterday were the Franklin Trust Company, \$400,000; the Cora Exchange Bank, \$400,000; and the Nassau National Bank, \$100,000. The quota for the borough of Brooklyn was \$55,857,400.

Complete figures for New York City and the Second Federal Reserve District including the entire State, twelve counties in New Jersey and one in Connecticut, will not be available before Monday, according to an announcement yesterday from loan headquarters.

DEATH HOUSE LIST GROWS.

Seventeen Awaiting Execution in Sing Sing.
With the arrival at Sing Sing yesterday of James Byrd, convicted of first degree murder, the list of prisoners now in the prison death house awaiting execution grew to seventeen. Byrd was convicted and sentenced on Tuesday for the murder of Policeman James J. Connelley, who was killed by a shot fired from Europe by way of Bermuda. They got a noisy welcome.

40 SUB CHASERS AT CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 14.—Forty American naval sub chasers with their mother ship and four accompanying tugs arrived here today from Europe by way of Bermuda. They got a noisy welcome.

DEMOCRATS' RECORD UPHELD BY MADDOX.

Sees Only One Verdict if 1920 Campaign Is Waged on War Issue.
CUSTOMS MEN HEAR HIM
Ex-Secretary Calls for Simplification of Archaic Revenue Laws.
William G. Maddox, former Secretary of the Treasury, addressed the conference of collectors and appraisers of customs yesterday in the Custom House. He spoke of the need for simplification of the laws under which the custom service is operated, defended his policy of increasing the wages of certain classes of railway employees as Secretary-General of the Railroads, and also the war record of the Democratic party.

His address was received with enthusiasm by the members of the conference, most of whom recalled their appointments during his administration. After his speech Mr. Maddox held a reception and chatted for half an hour with the officials present.

In opening his talk Mr. Maddox said that it had always been a source of regret to him while he was in office that he had never been able to attend one of the conferences personally, although he had originated the plan of holding such meetings. He spoke of the importance of the customs service in the administration of the Government and predicted that the immediate future would see the usefulness of the service increase rather than diminish.

Difficult to Get Reforms.

Referring to the archaic character of the customs laws, he said: "Now, no man knows better than you gentlemen that these laws are unsuited to the present times. You know also how difficult it is to obtain any laws that are of long standing. You know what it is to go before a Congressional committee. I have no criticism to make of Congress, but one of the reasons why I established these conferences was to give you men to suggest and recommend reforms in our customs laws to meet the needs of the present. Now, no man was ever treated with more consideration by a committee of Congress than I was, but no Congressman and no Senator comes into personal contact with the problems of the service and you do it."

"In this great new era—it is a great new era, and how new we do not yet fully realize—it is not possible to make the customs service as simple as it may be. To be sure all the laws bearing on the subject are not administrative; some affect the revenue and have no time to talk on the subject. You will find a law with which I believe are very fond of it, but we must devise some means to simplify the methods of arriving at the taxable value and in what amounts and thus help both the American public and strangers who come among us."

"Unless America pursues a broader method in expanding her business, we cannot expect prosperity in this country. It is not to do simply our laws and their administration, we must look to our great opportunity. We must sell our entire exportable surplus to prosper, but we must not sell it unless we allow other countries to sell us anything we want. We must be able to pay the balance against them if the balance is all one way."

Mr. Maddox discussed the Pan-American Bureau and its relation to national affairs. The organization had worked well, he said, not only in creating a better feeling among the countries of Latin America, but in expanding our trade with them.

The rank and file of the customs service, he said, were deserving of a substantial increase in pay, but it was an appropriation to meet that situation. "I believe," he said, "that I could do it at the time that I had authority to deal with this matter as I had with the railroads."

G. O. P. Criticisms Peeve Him.

"Why, gentlemen, I found that there were men getting as little as \$37 a month on which to maintain families. The situation was something that I did not like. I am glad to see that the Government is taking advantage of the opportunity to do a great service to humanity. Men who were getting \$12 a month received \$25 more and so on up the scale."

"We hear criticisms of government control of the railroads and are told that there is no cause to become indignant under public ownership. If what was learned when I had control is a good answer, then criticism is false. There is no cause to become indignant because a Democratic Administration waged a successful war. Did the Republicans want Germany to win because they were afraid of the war? Did they want Germany to win because they were afraid of the war? Did they want Germany to win because they were afraid of the war?"

BROOKLYN LOAN TOTAL GROWS.

Additional subscriptions reported unofficially yesterday by the Brooklyn committee of the Victory Loan brought the grand total up to \$12,546,000. Confidence was expressed yesterday by the Brooklyn managers that the grand total will reach \$100,000. Among the additional subscriptions from Brooklyn announced yesterday were the Franklin Trust Company, \$400,000; the Cora Exchange Bank, \$400,000; and the Nassau National Bank, \$100,000. The quota for the borough of Brooklyn was \$55,857,400.

Seventeen Awaiting Execution in Sing Sing.

With the arrival at Sing Sing yesterday of James Byrd, convicted of first degree murder, the list of prisoners now in the prison death house awaiting execution grew to seventeen. Byrd was convicted and sentenced on Tuesday for the murder of Policeman James J. Connelley, who was killed by a shot fired from Europe by way of Bermuda. They got a noisy welcome.

The Sun Calendar

MINIATURE ALMANAC.
Standard Time.
Sun rises... 5:10 A. M. Sun sets... 7:50 P. M.
Moon rises... 11:30 P. M. Moon sets... 5:10 A. M.

For Eastern New York and New Jersey.—Partly cloudy to-day and tomorrow; gentle to moderate change in temperature; for northern New England.—Partly cloudy to-day; to-morrow cloudy; gentle to moderate change in temperature; for southern New England.—Partly cloudy to-day; to-morrow cloudy; gentle to moderate change in temperature; for western New York.—Partly cloudy to-day; to-morrow cloudy; gentle to moderate change in temperature; for the Pacific coast.—Fair weather; variable winds.

Observations at United States Weather Bureau stations taken at 8 P. M. yesterday, six-fifty meridian time.

Atenas	54	70	29.94	1.02	Pt. Cloudy
Baltimore	54	70	29.94	..	Pt. Cloudy
Boston	54	70	29.92	..	Cloudy
Buffalo	54	70	29.94	..	Clear
Chicago	64	50	29.94	..	Clear
Cincinnati	72	58	29.94	1.18	Pt. Cloudy
Cleveland	60	50	29.94	..	Clear
Dayton	60	58	29.94	..	Clear
Des Moines	64	58	29.94	..	Clear
Indianapolis	72	58	29.94	..	Pt. Cloudy
St. Louis	68	58	29.92	..	Clear
Memphis	68	58	29.92	..	Clear
San Antonio	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
San Diego	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
San Francisco	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
San Jose	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
San Pedro	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
San Ysidro	64	50	29.78	..	Clear
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